

London Advertiser.

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LONDON, SATURDAY, DEC. 24.

The Nativity.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Luke iii, 8-20.

Ald. Judd's Dilemma.

An extraordinary defense of Ald. Judd is put forward in today's Free Press. It asserts that the company, of which Ald. Judd is a director and shareholder, and which is in receipt of \$30,000 a year from the city treasury, will not oppose the introduction of Niagara power, but rather welcome it. Why? The Free Press gives this reason:

"For every unit of power produced by steam that would be displaced by Niagara power, they (the London Electric Company), would gain two or three of the other in the distribution."

Is it a settled thing, then, that Ald. Judd's company is to have the distribution of Niagara power if transmitted to this city? If Niagara power is brought to London, it will be a municipal enterprise. Is the municipality to bring it here, and then hand over the sale and distribution to Ald. Judd's company? Is Ald. Judd's company to get a rake-off in the shape of middle-man's profits? The Free Press speaks as though this were a settled thing. Who settled it?

We can quite understand that in the event of the transmission of Niagara power to this city, it will be necessary to have a reducing station, where the voltage will be regulated for distribution. It will remain for the municipal authorities to determine how this will be effected, whether by building a new plant or purchasing an old one. Ald. Judd may have arranged in his own mind that his company will do the work, but the people of London will have something to say when the time arrives.

Mr. Beck assures us that the mayor of London is not ex-officio a member of the Niagara power commission. "Ald. Judd," he says, "will have nothing to do with it until I resign." Very well; but does Mr. Beck think the question of the transmission of Niagara power will remain in his hands? Having taken part in the preliminary stages of this business, he may be consulted, but the city council, as the organ of the ratepayers, will decide upon the steps to be taken. It is not advisable that the head of the municipal council should have a financial interest in this great problem. Mr. Judd has a financial interest in it.

Ald. Judd was also one of the local solicitors of the Bell Telephone Company at the very time when that company was negotiating for a renewal of the franchise. And negotiations on behalf of the city were conducted by Ald. Judd himself, as chairman of the finance committee. Citizens have no means of knowing whether the contract entered into is or is not a bonanza for the company. The council agreed to it and no one accuses Ald. Judd of seeking to give the city the worst of it. But men who draw salaries or dividends from corporations which are enjoying or seeking municipal contracts are placed in an equivocal position as members of a municipal council. They are divided between public duty and their private pockets.

The Party System in the Province and the Municipality.

The Woodstock Express, in noting the condition of things in London, where the party system has been carried into municipal government, admits that The Advertiser's complaint is well-founded, but asks why the same argument is not applied to the Province of Ontario. Says the Express:

"If three years of exclusive rule in the city of London has produced a situation that is unbearable, what about the situation produced by thirty-two years of continuous party rule in the Province? What is there in the affairs of the Province that calls for party rule that is not to be found in the affairs of Hamilton or London? What excuse is there for drawing the party line in the Province that does not exist in the municipalities? But if it is impossible to govern the Province without partyism, what excuse is there for allowing one party a monopoly? Our contemporary is not as explicit as usual. It condemns partisanship in civic affairs and goes on to say there is no excuse for drawing the party line in the municipalities. If this means that the party system cannot be justified in provincial any more than in municipal affairs we must dissent. A municipal government exists for one purpose, to spend the money contributed by the community for the maintenance of streets, for police and fire protection, for sewerage, for the supplying of water, and for other purposes, which may be called purely administrative. The residents and property-owners of a particular locality get themselves incorporated for such objects, and resemble a joint stock company. It is merely a question of spending taxes to the best advantage.

Is there a complete analogy between provincial and municipal government? Is it not a fact that the provincial issues upon which the greatest emphasis has been laid have not, as a rule, related to business and administrative questions? Take the question of provincial rights, which was uppermost twenty years ago: is there any comparison between such an issue and the work of a municipal government? Later on, "Facts for Irish Electors" looked larger than the business side of provincial politics. Still later, "The Eye-Opener" gave the keynote. The temperance question has been always to the fore, and has determined the votes of a proportion of the electorate. It may safely be said that what may be called business matters, such as make up the whole duty of municipal councils, have played a subordinate part in provincial politics, as compared with principles or policies or prejudices, which from their very nature would have divided the people of the Province into parties, if the party system had been previously unknown.

Even in the present campaign the Opposition is making no serious attack upon the administrative record of the Government, but pretends that a moral issue is involved. In this country the party in power, by common consent, gives its supporters the preference in filling public offices. The system may not be the ideal one, but both parties have practiced it always. If the late Conservative Government at Ottawa had divided the patronage the Conservatives today would have a just complaint against the Laurier Government. In this city the Liberals controlled the municipal council for three years, 1899 to 1901, and deliberately banished party politics from municipal affairs. They recognized the right of their Conservative fellow-citizens, who paid half the taxes, to an equal share in the administration of the municipality. It happened that in 1902 a majority of the aldermen were Conservatives. Instead of following a generous and sensible precedent they introduced the party system as rigidly as the Provincial or Federal Government. All the appointments, not only to paid offices, but to honorary positions in the service of the city, such as membership on the library board, school board, and other municipal bodies, have been made by the executive of the Conservative Association. The Liberals have a right to complain of grossly unfair treatment and downright ingratitude.

We think we have said enough to show that while the party system is inevitable in provincial and federal affairs, there is no excuse for its existence in municipal affairs. Where it is applied to a municipality, serious evils may creep in. A municipal government touches the average citizen more closely than a federal or provincial government, and has more power to inflict injustice. The money of the taxpayers cannot be spent to the best advantage, or the strictest justice meted out to all classes of citizens when a municipal council studies every act with relation to its effect upon the fortunes of a political party. A municipal council, in doing its full duty, must sometimes give offense to influential party men—manufacturers, who want lower assessments, public franchise corporations, which have contracts with the city, ratepayers who want improvements and so on. There is a great temptation to favor those of the same political persuasion, because of the bearing such action may have on provincial and federal elections.

The Progress of the Baltic Fleet. It is characteristic of Togo that he should assume the aggressive toward the Baltic fleet. Confident of smashing Rojstevsky's squadron, as he did Makarov's, he has decided to meet the enemy, a dispatch from Singapore reporting that a fleet of Japanese cruisers has passed that point westward bound. This fleet, which is probably composed of his speediest craft, can act as a scouting division, backing up as

the Russians advance. Reinforced by the fleet under Kamimura, Togo can choose his own point to strike with his full force, or resort to cutting out tactics. At this game, with his faster-sailing ships, he would have a great advantage over his opponents.

Chagos Islands, in the Indian Ocean, close to Madagascar, are the place of rendezvous for the various sections of the Baltic fleet. Voelkersham's division, which proceeded by way of the Suez Canal, must be almost there, and as another section has rounded the Cape of Good Hope a very few days will see a powerful Armada moving unitedly to engage the Japanese. There is a tendency to decry the strength of the Baltic fleet. The popular idea is that of a squadron of patched-up ironclads and obsolete cruisers badly commanded and manned. As a matter of fact, the Russian ships are for the most part excellent, while the long trip to the far east gives Rojstevsky a splendid opportunity for whipping his crews into fighting shape.

The Russian admiral's mainstay will be his seven battleships, four of which, the Suvaroff, Orel, Borodino and Alexander III, are among the finest fighting machines afloat. They steam seventeen to eighteen knots, carry four to twelve 6-inch guns, and are protected by 9-inch Krupp armor on the water line. In addition there are nine cruisers, four of them of the most modern type, fast and powerfully armed, and a host of destroyers and armed transports.

The first week in January will likely see the rendezvous effected. From Chagos Islands to Vladivostok the distance is 6,600 miles, which could on a conservative estimate be covered in 40 days, but as Togo is likely to force an engagement long before that port could be reached, the command of the seas will probably be decided early in the new year.

The departure of so many ships has weakened the blockade of Togo in the harbor. Already a number of ships laden with provisions and ammunition have slipped into the harbor, and if the report of the recapture of 203-Meter Hill should be true Stoessel will be greatly encouraged and aided in his gallant defense of the fortress. As yet there is no confirmation of the report, and taking into consideration the Japanese strength it seems improbable. During the week the Japanese destroyers, after a desperate battle, succeeded in crippling the battleship Suvaroff beyond all hope of repair.

Acknowledges the Corn.

The hypocrisy which pretends that there is no partisanship in the city council was again unmasked last night—this time by Mr. Beck himself. Liberals will do well to read, mark and inwardly digest this passage from Mr. Beck's speech:

"You are today a strong party, politically and morally, because you have carried on the affairs of the city honestly and fairly. You have elected men who were a credit to you. That is why you are strong. There is no dishonesty, no dishonesty in the party, no dishonesty in the party. You are upon a strong and solid foundation in municipal matters, and I am happy to say that we may all be proud of the men who sit at our governing boards."

Open confession is good for the soul, but it comes rather late in the day.

The Advertiser wishes its thousands of readers each and all a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Beck's candidature for the Legislature means another boom for the picture gallery.

No man can serve two corporations, when one is a municipal corporation and the other wants a contract.

A great step in advance has been taken, now that it is settled that Ald. Judd's company is to distribute Niagara power.

Mr. Beck has given so little time to his legislative duties that he makes no great sacrifice in taking the risk of another election.

We are sorry to notice a serious breach between Mayor Beck and Ald. Judd. His worship says "he does not favor the holding of special privileges by corporations."

The young war horse Billy Gray, is not out for the Legislature. Nothing so small for him. He is to be staffed and carried until the next run against a cabinet minister.

Mr. Beck says that the next mayor of London will have nothing to do with bringing Niagara power to London because Mr. Beck is London's representative on the Niagara power commission? When Mr. Beck no longer represents the city as mayor, whom will he represent on the commission?

Mr. Edmund Meredith complains that The Advertiser "hasn't even mentioned the names of candidates for municipal office who are not dyed-in-the-wool Liberals." The Advertiser has stated more than once that all the members of the school board and council are in the field for re-election. It is understood they are not all dyed-in-the-wool Grits, either. Mr. Meredith should read his favorite journal a little more closely.

The Hotel Habit in Women.

[New York Correspondence London Telegraph]

The goal of the woman from the out-of-town district as soon as prosperity shines upon her is to make the splendor of that prosperity widely known by basking herself to the city, stopping at the hotel the most gilded, the costliest and the most emblazoned upon the public attention.

To be able to pay a stupendous price for the "royal suite" in one of the biggest hotels of the Republic is the

some of bliss in many minds. A young man and his wife recently hired a suite of rooms in a new hotel at the rate of £25 a day, exclusive of meals, a circumstance that created far more envy in the breast of most women than if they had learned that this same man had hired a large estate at the same price.

Aside from those who have rooms in the hotels, thousands throng the corridors daily merely for the joy of participating temporarily in the coveted glories. They make appointments to meet their friends in the empire gallery, the red room, the gold lobby or the green saloon. They sit in the comfort of these luxurious quarters by the half day, wander luxuriously about the gorgeous corridors and public compartments. "Peacock Alley" one famous hotel corridor is named because of the display to be seen. The various dining-rooms from noon until evening are thronged with women, many of them unattended by men, who find in this public eating and drinking an agreeable substitute for social functions in private houses.

Calmed.

[Washington Star.] "Are you not afraid you will unduly alarm people concerning microbes?" asked one scientist. "No," answered the other. "There was some little care, but since we told the public that money is full of microbes, they lost all their terrors."

Offering a Timid Suggestion.

[Evansville Courier.] "What can we do to improve the present method of dancing?" thundered the parson. "Dancing is merely hugging set to music," "We might cut out the music," softly suggested a bad young man in the rear of the auditorium.

A Sure Way.

[Cincinnati Commercial.] "I've been doing my best to persuade my wife that high heels are injurious, but I can't convince her." "There's one way to do it." "What's that?" "Have them go out of style."

She's Shocking.

[Detroit Free Press.] Van Q.—Mrs. Chadwick must be a very magnetic woman. De Q.—I should say so! She has shocked the whole country!

Blair and Russell.

[Hamilton Times.] The public expects Blair and Russell to say something further. Mr. Russell admits that he "persuaded" Mr. Blair to resign, and that he wired the press that he would take the stump against Laurier. In view of the grave charges made he has said too little or too much. He owes the public an explanation. And the public must have it.

Had Her Notes.

[Toronto Star.] Although Mrs. Chadwick played on the feelings of those from whom she obtained loans, it seems quite clear that she never played without her notes.

An Awful Example.

[Toronto Star.] The drop in Amalgamated Copper is an instance of the devastating effects that magazine articles have on some people.

Notoriety.

[Chicago News.] The Soubrette—The leading lady claims to have been married to one man seven years and five years ago. Low Comedian—Huh! Some women will do almost anything to gain a little notoriety!

An Egotist.

[Washington Star.] "Father," asked the small boy, "what is an egotist?" "An egotist, my son, is a man who has the impudence to think he knows more than you do, instead of giving you credit for knowing more than he does."

The Glory of Rome.

[Sam Kiser.] "And what was the most interesting thing you saw in Rome?" "That was where we met the Marquis of Migglesworth."

One of the Consequences.

[New York Press.] "It was imprudent for her to marry a poor man." "Yes, indeed; in the event of a divorce he won't be able to pay any alimony to speak of."

Injustice.

[Washington Star.] "Why is Shakespeare so little esteemed in some communities?" "Well," answered Mr. Storemington Barnes, "it is another case of a man's having to take the blame that belongs to others. People have gotten the idea that Shakespeare is responsible for the bad actors that go out in his plays."

The Limitations of Our Language.

[Sam Kiser.] "She seems to be a woman of unusual tact." "Tact is no name for it. She's had the same housemaid for nearly two years."

FUNERAL GOES TO FIRE

Department Stamped While Following Fireman's Body to Grave.

La Crosse, Wis., Dec. 22.—A clang of alarm, jarring discordantly on the toll of muffled bells, today turned the funeral of Thomas Proof, the oldest fireman in the La Crosse department into a rout.

The coffin, laid on a draped horse cart drawn by two of the finest horses in the service, was opposite the Central station when the alarm sounded. Immediately behind it was the large aerial truck, drawn by three horses, and with a swing it was guided out of the procession and started in a dash down State street. Scarcely had it cleared the procession when the hearse swung into line, the horses struggling madly to follow their masters. They were checked after running some distance. When the aerial truck whirled from the cortege the firemen who were acting as pallbearers sprang on the apparatus and were carried to the scene of the fire, which was in a tailor-shop. The funeral was postponed until the blaze was extinguished, when the services were resumed.

GLUED TEACHER TO CHAIR

Students Make Life Unbearable for Unpopular Professor.

Philadelphia, Dec. 21.—A professor who was glued to his chair, tor-

CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS

Will Find What They Want Here.

Gifts for Children.

We have the finest stock of Children's Wear in the city, consisting of Umbrella Shawls; Fascinators, in black and white; Ladies' Slippers, White Fur Muff and Collar, Bootees, Infantees, Wool Jackets, Wool Boas, Sleigh Robes, Moccasins, in red and white, Bibs, Leggings, etc.



Children's Coats

Children's Coats, in all-wool frieze, colors of red, brown, fawn and dark cardinal; special at \$3.75, \$4.00 and \$5.00.

Traveling Rugs

Cozy patterns in Traveling Rugs; good value at \$3.75 and \$4.00.

\$10.00 Shawls for \$5.00

Camelshair Shawls, regular price \$10.00; on sale for \$5.00.

Linens for Christmas Gifts

Table Cloths, Napkins, Tea Cloths, Irish Hand-embroidered Tea Cloths, Carvers, Tray Cloths, Doilies (round and square), fringed and hemstitched.

Japanese Fancy Linens in Doilies, Centerpieces, Tray Cloths, Scarfs; Tea Cloths.

Teneriffe Fancy Centerpieces, Pillow Shams, Dresser Covers, Fancy Bath Towels, Finest Weave of Huck Towels and Bath Mats.

Leather Novelties

Burnt Leather Shaving Pads, at.....25c
Pipe Racks, nice assortment in burnt and painted leather.....25c
Leather Coin Purses, all colors.....20c
Burnt Leather Whisk-Holder with whisk.....50c
Handsome Hand-Painted Panels.....\$1.25

Ladies' Gloves

Ladies' Ringwood Gloves, in white, black and fancy, at.....25c
Ladies' 2-Clasp Cashmere Gloves, in white, gray, navy, brown and black, at.....45c
Ladies' 2-Clasp "Sovereign" in tan, beaver, gray, white and black, at.....\$1.00
Ladies' English Tan Walking Gloves, pique sewn; special, at.....\$1.10

KINGSMILL'S
247 GERRARD STREET
130 DUNDAS AND 131 CARLING STREET
LARGEST CARPET HOUSE IN CANADA
CARPET HOUSE, 118 AND 120 CARLING STREET

Order Your
Delineator
for 1905.

RETIRING FROM BUSINESS

RUBICON IS PASSED. THE DIE IS CAST.

The entire stock of over \$35,000 must be sold at cost or less, and the public can rely upon this principle being carried out. All the stock is regular goods, and none has been purchased or will be purchased to deceive buyers. However, I will take orders for any kind of goods and sell them at cost. This is a rare opportunity for customers or for those who have never been customers. Try me. All goods will be guaranteed as sold, as arrangements have been made with the successors to the business for this purpose. Promises must be fulfilled. All goods have been purchased for cash, and consequently well bought. The following prices are a sample of the rest of the stock. I am bound to sell out.

SALE WILL CONTINUE FROM DAY TO DAY TILL STOCK IS SOLD OUT

Store open Every Day from 9 to 12:30, 2 to 5:30, 7 to 9.

100 dozen Sterling Teaspoons, must be sold.
Gent's Waltham Watch in a gold-filled case, guaranteed 20 years, regular \$12.00. For.....\$6.75
JUST RECEIVED A LARGE STOCK OF 1847 ROGERS BROS.' A1 GOOLDS.
1847 Rogers Bros.' Tea Spoons, A1, per dozen . . \$2.25
1847 Rogers Bros.' Knives, A1, per dozen . . . \$3.35
Lemaire's Opera Glasses, regular price \$5.00 . . . \$3.25
Alarm Clock. Regular price \$1.00, for . . . 60c
Gents' Gold-Filled Hunting Case Watch, warranted to wear 20 years, with Waltham or Elgin movement \$10.00

Large stock of Purses and Hand Bags, Ladies' Umbrellas, of the best quality, Gold-headed Canes, and Manicure Sets in silver and ebony. Heavy stock Sterling Silver Goods in every line of the trade. Entree Dishes, Pearl-handled Dessert Knives and Forks; Ivory Handles, Celluloid Handles of the English Rodgers—the best makers in these goods in the world. I have arranged for new stock of certain lines sold out, so as not to disappoint my customers. All goods sold and found not as represented will be taken back and money returned. I have thought it best to sell straight to the public instead of calling in an auctioneer, as I shall then have sole control of the selling, and therewith be no misrepresentation.

P. BIRTWISTLE, 116 Dundas Street.

tured with tacks, whose doctoral robe was dishonored, and who was lamed on the blackboard in his classroom—such is the woeful victim of the animosity of the students of the Augustinian College at Villanova. Rev. Dr. L. A. Delury, the president, explained the hostility to Prof. John Reimer, which was manifested last Wednesday night by the breaking open of his room and the demolition of certain objects within it, by stating that his suspicion

rested upon a lay member of the faculty, and that by all of the clerical members Dr. Reimer is highly respected and esteemed.

Two Augustinian priests who are well acquainted with the internal affairs of the college deny this, and say that with hardly any exception the faculty and students dislike Prof. Reimer. Since he went there, more than four years ago, this feeling, they assert, has been growing. The reasons they give are that they do not accept